



Date: August 27, 2012

Topic: US 181/Harbor Bridge Project

Background: FHWA and TxDOT propose to replace the existing Harbor Bridge and improve SH 181 and SH 286 in the City of Corpus Christi, Nueces County. The proposed project length is approximately 3.0 to 4.8 miles depending on the proposed alternatives. The proposed improvements to both US 181/SH 286 and the Bridge will address the structural deficiencies and navigational restrictions and improve safety, connectivity, and level of service in the area. EPA was requested and has agreed to serve as a cooperating agency for this project. As part of our cooperating agency agreement, Region 6 NEPA program staff attended Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings on June 21, 2012 in Corpus Christi, TX.

Curent Status:

- Community Impact Assessment has begun
- Field work and data collection has begun
- Purpose and Need chapter of EIS will be provided to EPA for review and comment by early September 2012
- Alternatives chapter will be provided in early October 2012
- Affected Environment chapter in late October 2012

Concerns: There are Environmental Justice issues related to the project. Areas of particular concern are the Hillcrest and Washington-Coles neighborhoods, although identifiable minority populations and low income populations occur throughout the project area. Regional staff from the NEPA, Air, Water, and Environmental Justice programs have provided information to the project team and have reviewed various reports, including the Environmental Justice Workplan. The EJ Workplan identifies methods to develop and implement meaningful community engagement and outreach.

Schedule of Activities:

September 17-21, 2012 – series of neighborhood/small group meetings
 October 18, 2012 – CAC and TAC meetings
 Late October/Early November 2012 – Public Meeting
 Spring 2013 – Draft EIS
 Summer 2013 – Public Meeting, Design Guideline Workshop
 2014 – Public Hearing
 2014 - 2015 – Final EIS
 2016 - 2018 – Begin construction

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